

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 10016 280607Z

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 /020 W

-----083291 290041Z /63

R 271916Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4468

MARINE SECURITY GUARD BATTALION, ARLINGTON, VA

UNCLAS BOGOTA 10016

FOR MAJOR RAY FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF NCOIC KOCZEWSKI TO GUAYAQUIL

REF: PANAMA 7673

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES PROPOSED TRANSFER OF GYSGT KOCZEWSKI IS PREMATURE AND NOT IN BEST INTEREST OF THE SECURITY OF THIS POST. IT IS MY OPINION, FULLY SHARED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNSELOR AND THE REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER THAT KOCZEWSKI HAS PERFORMED IN AN OUTSTANDING MANNER AS NCOIC OF BOGOTA DETACHMENT OVER THE LAST YEAR THROUGH SOME DIFFICULT TIMES WHICH INCLUDED ASSASSINATION OF DEA SAIC, TERRORIST THREATS AGAINST MISSION AND PERSONNEL, INCREASING NUMBER OF BOMB THREATS, STRIKES AND POTENTIAL DEMONSTRATION AGAINST EMBASSY.

2. THESE SORTS OF CRISES ARE LIKELY TO INCREASE AS WE ENTER THE PRESIDENTIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN PERIOD BEGINNING EARLY IN 1978. I WOULD FEEL MORE CONFIDENT OF OUR ABILITY TO RESPOND TO THREATS AGAINST THE EMBASSY IF I COULD BE CERTAIN THAT THE PRESENTLY SMOOTH RUNNING MARINE DETACHMENT HERE WOULD

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NOT SUFFER A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER YEAR. THE RSO SHARES MY OPPOSITION TO A BREAK IN CONTINUITY OF LEADERSHIP AT THE NCOIC LEVEL.

3. THE RSO AGREES THAT AN EXPERIENCED NCOIC SHOULD BE SELECTED TO ESTABLISH A DETACHMENT IN GUAYAQUIL, BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF BOGOTA DETACHMENT. I HOPE YOU CAN

SELECT ANOTHER EXPERIENCED NCOIC FROM SOME OTHER
LOCATION WHERE THE NEED FOR CONTINUITY IS NOT AS
PRESSING AS OURS.

4. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN CLEARED WITH GYSGT KOCZEWSKI
WHO IN FACT WOULD PREFER TO REMAIN IN BOGOTA. AS A
FIRST-RATE MARINE, HE HAD STEPPED FORWARD WHEN ASKED
TO VOLUNTEER FOR A DIFFICULT ASSIGNMENT. I URGE YOU TO RE-
CONSIDER THE PROPOSED TRANSFER.
DREXLER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 27-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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